

77. The multi-bit driver claimed in claim 76, wherein said cone is an integral part of said housing.

78. The multi-bit driver claimed in claim 60, further comprising guide means for maintaining said bit extensions separate one from another and nested proximate the inner surface of said housing, and for guiding said bit extension as said tool bits are urged between said extended and retracted positions.

79. The multi-bit driver claimed in claim 78, wherein said guide means includes a guide including guide faces for slideably receiving said bit assemblies, thereby maintaining said bit assemblies spaced apart within said housing.

80. The multi-bit driver claimed in claim 79, wherein said guide means further comprises a guide support connected at one end to said guide and at an opposite other end to an end cap.

REMARKS:

Claims 18 through 24 and 27 through 80 now stand for prosecution in this patent application. Claims 18 through 24 and 27 through 38 were recently allowed in a Notice of Allowance mailed February 18, 2004. Claims 39 through 80 are new, and have been submitted in order to overcome earlier cited prior art references, namely U.S. Patent No. 3,750,729 to Lemieux, and U.S. Patent No. 5,325,745 to Koehler. Applicant submits that the newly submitted claims do not read on the known prior art. Accordingly, the claims presented herein define over U.S. Patent No. 3,750,729 to Lemieux, and U.S. Patent No. 5,325,745 to Koehler.

Further, the newly submitted claims are fully supported in the patent application as originally filed, and in U.S. Provisional Patent Application 60/219,446 filed July 20, 2000, from which the present application claims priority. A reference showing the page and line number in the provisional patent application filed July 20, 2000, for each limitation in the claims presented herewith for inclusion in this application can be found in Appendix "A".

The two consistory clause paragraphs that have been inserted into the Summary, are derived directly from the independent claims presented herewith and are therefore fully supported in the provisional patent application.

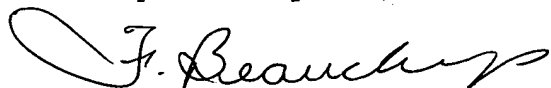
Also, the various clarifications that have been inserted into the Detailed Description are fully supported in the provisional patent application filed July 20, 2000. A reference showing the page and line number in the provisional patent application for each limitation in the claims presented herewith for inclusion in this application can also be found in Appendix "A". Further, the term "chuck receiving channel" has been amended to read "tool bit receiving channel" for the sake of clarity.

In light of all of the above, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests prosecution toward that end.

Any excess fees can be charged to TD Canada Trust VISA Credit Card 4520 0500 0237 9905 Expiry 04/05. The appropriate Credit Card Payment Form accompanies this Supplemental Amendment.

If it would help in the prosecution of the present patent application, Applicant invites the Examiner to call collect at the above telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "F. Beauchamp". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the left of the printed name.

Fern Beauchamp